We claim:

1. A method for updating the operating parameters for a security gate having a control system comprising a memory, including the steps of:

storing a first plurality of operating parameters in a plurality of first data locations within the memory,

providing the control system with a first map to the memory indicating the respective first data location for each of the respective plurality of operating parameters;

loading a plurality of operating parameters into a plurality of second data locations within the memory, the plurality of second data locations not including any of the plurality of first data locations;

providing the control system with a second map to the memory indicating the respective second data location for each of the respective plurality of operating parameters;

initiating a change in the control system to substitute use of the second map in place of the first map;

loading a plurality of operating parameters into a plurality of third data locations within the memory, the plurality of third data locations not including any of the plurality of second data locations;

providing the control system with a third map to the memory indicating the respective third data location for each of the respective plurality of operating parameters; and

initiating a change in the control system to substitute use of the third map in place of the second map.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the third map and the first map are the same for each respective one of the plurality of operating parameters.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the set of operating parameters stored in each of the first, second and third data locations are the same.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein the set of operating parameters stored in each of the first, second and third data locations are the same.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the set of operating parameters stored in the second and third data locations is an updated value for the respective

parameter from that previously stored in the respective data location.

6. The method of claim 2 wherein at least one of the set of operating parameters stored in the second and third data locations is an updated value for the respective parameter from that previously stored in the respective data location.

7. The method of claim 3 wherein at least one of the set of operating parameters stored in the second and third data locations is an updated value for the respective parameter from that previously stored in the respective data location.

8. The method of claim 4 wherein at least one of the set of operating parameters stored in the second and third data locations is an updated value for the respective parameter from that previously stored in the respective data location.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a communication network.

10. The method of claim 2 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a communication network.

11. The method of claim 3 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a communication network.

12. The method of claim 4 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a communication network.

13. The method of claim 5 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a communication network.

14. The method of claim 6 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a

communication network.

15. The method of claim 7 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a communication network.

16. The method of claim 8 wherein the steps of loading are carried out from a remote location in communication with the control system through a communication network.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein all of the operating parameters in the set of operating parameters stored in the second data locations has the same value as was stored in the respective first data locations and the initiation of the change in the control system is in response to an indication that at least one of the values stored in a respective first data location has been corrupted.

18. The method of claim 2 wherein all of the operating parameters in the set of operating parameters stored in the second data locations has the same value as was stored in the respective first data locations and the initiation of the change in the control system is in response to an indication that at least one of the values stored in a respective first data location has been corrupted.

19. The method of claim 3 wherein all of the operating parameters in the set of operating parameters stored in the second data locations has the same value as was stored in the respective first data locations and the initiation of the change in the control system is in response to an indication that at least one of the values stored in a respective first data location has been corrupted.

20. The method of claim 4 wherein all of the operating parameters in the set of operating parameters stored in the second data locations has the same value as was stored in the respective first data locations and the initiation of the change in the control system is in response to an indication that at least one of the values stored in a respective first data location has been corrupted.

21. An apparatus for updating the operating parameters for a security gate having a control system comprising a memory, comprising:

storage means for storing a first plurality of operating parameters in a plurality of first data locations within the memory,
a control system having a first mapping means for indicating the respective first data location for each of the respective plurality of operating parameters within the memory;
storage means for storing a plurality of operating parameters into a plurality of second data locations within the memory, the plurality of second data locations not including any of the plurality of first data locations;
the control system having a second mapping means for indicating the respective second data location for each of the respective plurality of operating parameters;
switching means for switching the control system from the first mapping means to the second mapping means;
storage means for storing a plurality of operating parameters into a plurality of third data locations within the memory, the plurality of third data locations not including any of the plurality of second data locations;
switching means for switching the control system from the second mapping means to the third mapping means.

22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the third mapping means and the first mapping indicate the same respective data location for each respective one of the plurality of operating parameters.

23. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the set of operating parameters stored in each of the first, second and third data locations are the same.

24. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the set of operating parameters stored in each of the first, second and third data locations are the same.